

THE
AUSTRALIAN

U.F.O.

BULLETIN



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WELCOME

The Society welcomes reports of unusual phenomena. These are evaluated on their own merits and if requested are kept in the strictest confidence.

The Society exchanges information with similar Australian and overseas organisations, as well as scientists, and disseminates to the public information on local, interstate and overseas developments in its quarterly publication, the "Australian U.F.O. Bulletin", which is posted to all members.

All communications should be addressed per the return address shown on the rear of this bulletin.

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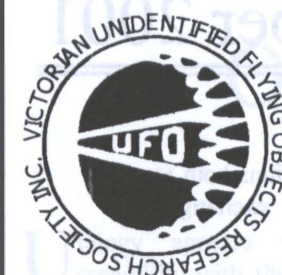
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MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

For details of your membership renewal, refer to the month/year coding on the address label of your latest bulletin. This indicates the last bulletin for which you are financial - we would appreciate your renewal by the date shown.



Victorian U.F.O. Research Society

P.O. Box 1043, Moorabbin, Vic. 3189, Australia
INCORPORATED 1988

Comments are welcome, address email to vufors@ozemail.com.au
VUFORS Web page at <http://www.ozemail.com.au/~vufors>

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First of all, I'd like to thank all the individuals and organisations both at home and abroad, with whom, over the years, we have exchanged material, and with permission, printed in our publication.

For some time, there has been a dearth of good quality sighting reports. Of course, there is always the occasional balloon or "stray" light crossing the sky, which causes very little interest and sometimes takes a lot of time.

It is most fortunate that we have some very active and worthy investigators in those areas; Wendy Wolfe, John Thompson, and Dan Haylock are very experienced investigators, all of whom have been with this Society for a number of years and are most capable in their positions.

More recently, we have been receiving reports from Melbourne's outer Eastern suburbs, to as far East as Bairnsdale. If these 'lights' have been caused by pranksters, they are working in concert to create consternation among the public and researchers. One TV station has written them off as garbage bags. This amusement would be brilliant if that kind of garbage could carry out maneuvers attributed to the reported lights. If they proved to be the work of pranksters they would need remote controlled devices and there is yet another possibility, they may be Military experiments or exercises. However, we do not speculate but investigate to differentiate between fact and fiction.

For this reason, we have arranged to hold a meeting with the observers and others, especially those who actually reported the objects or lights to us.

It is pleasing to see that Sweden once again has a newsletter in English – Archives for UFO Research Foundation (AFU). PO Box 11027, S-600 11 Norrköping, Sweden.

COMMITTEE

No nominations for new Committee members had been received by the due date and the Committee therefore remains as shown on the inside front cover.

ON THE UFO TRAIL

Paul Norman © 2001

Ufology appears to be gaining more credibility with the general public. I was surprised when learning that the one hundred year celebration was to include the subject of the Greatest Mystery in Australian Aviation History, was the selection of the highlight that occurred in the seventh decade of the 100 years. I was also surprised that it was the first time that I was not interrupted during an interview for the Frederick Valentich encounter.

With lack of quality cases being reported, some publications are reverting to historical cases. Consequently, I will go back to the longest period of UFO activity in history, located in the Hessdalen valley of central Norway. The last two letters are silent in that language.

Dr. Earling Strand organized the investigation and operation project. I was fortunate to be invited to the homes of Dr. Strand, Leif Havik, and Odd-Gunnar Roed, three of the five investigators who made up the team. It was the most interesting and pleasant trip of my life. Also my father's ancestors came from that part of the world.

My first visit to that country was in April 1986. It was so pleasant that I returned in April 1987. That time of year was the best time to be in Norway. Dr. Allen Hynek made a trip earlier at a time of peak activity. He and his colleagues had a narrow escape when their car froze up and stalled and they had to be rescued.

I learned something about the period of activity from the three above-mentioned researchers. In December 1981, the area residents began reporting strange lights in the valley, which

were sometimes visible four or five times a day. There were hundreds of reports during 1981 and 1985.

The Universities of Oslo, Bergen and the Norwegian Defence Establishment assisted the field work with advice and equipment including cameras with grating IR-viewer, Spectrum-analyser, Seismograph, Magnetograph, Radar Laser, and Geiger counter.

In December 1981, inhabitants commenced seeing an increasing number of strange lights. They could see them every day. No one could give an explanation of the lights, so they got the name Hessdalen Phenomenon. The sightings began to increase during 1984. In 1985 there were few reports. Since that time only a few sightings have occurred.

These lights could be split into three main types which behaved very differently. One type looked like a yellow bullet with the sharp end pointing down. This type of light was mostly in the valley and witnesses saw the mountains behind the objects. Some time witnesses looked down on them, moving slowly around in the valley and could stand still for five to ten minutes. An object could be seen for two hours before it disappeared. They were very bright and about 5m in diameter.

Another type of light looked like a strong white-blue, sometimes flashing. This kind of light was usually above the mountains and the distance it was away, was difficult to tell. Some of them moved with an oscillation movement and could disappear when oscillation was at the highest

On The UFO Trail

amplitude five to ten degrees. Then lights could also disappear when it just went out of sight.

On Sunday 13, July 1986 00:50, weather was clear at a place called Turpo in Hallingdalen several witnesses observed an object through the window. They all went outside to have a look. One of the witnesses took his video camera along and shot about ten minutes of tape. The whole observation took about two hours. The camera was a 1986 model VHS Nordmende CV 155 with a zoom lens.

Binoculars that were used measured 12x50. The battery on the camera was flat so the cigarette lighter in the car was used as power. Lying on the roof of the car he filmed the object which was in the east-northeast direction and moved towards and away from the witnesses, also up, down and sideways. It finally disappeared shooting straight up and away. The colour was white/blue.

In between them was a second object in the opposite direction, west, south/west. This object was further away and fainter. It had a more reddish colour. One week later a lady witness called about an object seen in the middle of the night as the same date as the above case. She saw this from a closer range than the other. She thought it was the moon but was surprised at the movements. She looked at this for about ten minutes with another witness from a more westerly area.

A result of some experiments in 1984 was gained when a 0.5 mW He-Ne laser was directed onto a regular bright flashing light and it

became a double regular flashing light. Removing the laser beam caused the light to return to its original single flashing pattern. This test was done nine times and in eight of the nine times the same effect occurred. The lights could be seen on a radar screen, travelling at a slow speed when no lights were visible to the eyes. On occasions, it was only the radar recording moving objects.

There was also an electro-magnetic disturbance in the frequency band which they covered with their spectrum analyser 100 kHz to 1.2 GHz. This noise was not present when the lights were visible but there was much noise during the period reflections were seen on the radar screen. 40% of the time the lights were seen, there was a magnetic pulsation present.

Project Hessdalen was an outstanding example of cooperative investigation involving the Norwegian Defence Establishment, the Universities of Oslo, Bergen and UFO Researchers.



Paul Norman (left) Dr. Earling Strand (right)

New Times, Old Songs

EDITORIAL, RIAP Bulletin, April-September 2000, Vol. 6, No. 2-3

A few months ago the Presidium of the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS) was reviewing the work of its recently-created Commission for the Struggle Against Pseudoscience and Falsification of Results of Scientific Studies.¹ Having heard and discussed a report by E. P. Krugliakov, Full Member of the Academy and the Chairman of the Commission, the Presidium approved of its activities, supporting the conclusions and proposals of the speaker. The main troubles of the present situation in the country that disturb the elite of Russian science are uncontrollable pseudoscientific publications in the mass media, emergence of "public academies", and penetration of pseudoscience into the RAS itself.

Dr. E. P. Krugliakov called on his colleagues to "crush the Hydra of pseudoscience!" "The place must be made too hot for the ignoramuses who dare to speak in the name of science!" Both the President of the RAS, Dr. Y. S. Ossipov, and members of the Presidium who spoke after Dr. Krugliakov, have supported his approach to the questions under discussion. True, Academicians A. L. Yanshin and E. P. Chelyshev expressed their concern that in the heat of the struggle against pseudoscience one could "throw out the baby with the bath-water... [that is] obscure or unstudied phenomena that could be easily regarded as non-existent." But their colleagues have paid little if any attention to this warning.

The impression gained from this discussion is rather joyless. Seemingly, the Russian academic elite still cannot understand that they are now living in a different world as compared to that before 1991. A newspaper under capitalism differs radically from a newspaper under socialism ("a collective organizer and propagandist") and the Academy of Sciences

itself also differs. Retaining its functions as the center of pure science in the country, it is already deprived of the share of the controlling and ideological functions that had been delegated to it by the Party and State authorities of the former USSR. There is absolutely no sense in trying to persuade newspaper editors to inform the readers in their publications only about "scientifically proved" facts. At present even the official mass media do not care a hang for what had once been academic censorship of some questions (the UFO problem included), to say nothing of privately owned journals and newspapers. Just as much, "alternative academies" will also be created, irrespective of the RAS's opinion of this process and with very different intellectual standards (as may be predicted and as one can already see) — from definitely high to, alas, extremely low.

The question whether it is for bad or for good is rather meaningless. This is an objective fact and objective facts have always been the air of true science. The former Soviet system of institutionalized science had many advantages (as compared with the Western one) and no less disadvantages. When the State owns everything, such a structure as a state-maintained Academy where the interests of the State and of Science are brought into concord of a sort is certainly an advantage. Hence the great successes of the USSR in physics, chemistry, cosmonautics, and some other fields of knowledge and technology. But the evident asymmetry of this concord (the State elite is "more equal"), coupled with the absence of the freedom of speech, is a big shortcoming that repeatedly led to failures in mastering advanced scientific directions of research (Lysenkoism instead of conventional genetics; defining cybernetics as a "reactionary

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pseudoscience"; the Chernobyl disaster; etc., etc.)

It does also seem that members of the Russian Academy of Sciences worry seriously that they will have to share with "public academies" the budget means allocated to science. All these propagandists of pseudoscience have, in the view of Academician N. A. Plate, one and only one purpose — "to grab a slice of the budget cake". Games with scientific degrees and diplomas are, of course, also blameworthy, but infringement upon the holy of holies cannot be tolerated at all!

Thus, everything appears to be clear: reactionaries from the Academy are dreaming to bring back the past, where they had both more power and more money. Many Russian enthusiasts-ufologists are treating the activities of the Commission on Pseudoscience in just this way — the more so, that ufology was also kicked, even if briefly, in E. P. Krugliakov's speech. One cannot say that these reminiscences were completely lacking in the academical discussion around "pseudoscience". All these "Hydras" and "the place must be made too hot..." are certainly echoes from the past bearing rather emotional than informational content.² But it would be utterly unfair to reduce the problem to a sort of historical nostalgia. It is in fact both deeper and harder-to-solve.

First, the question of funding "normal" scientific studies in the current economic situation in Russia and (to an even greater extent) other CIS countries is very important and far from having been solved. But pseudoscience is hardly the main obstacle for that.

Second, a monopoly on truth, as has been more than once demonstrated by history, is no guarantee of correct decisions. The system of checking for high quality of scientific results

developed by science is one of its most significant achievements, but taken alone it is not always sufficient to choose between competing theories, much less between competing research strategies.

One of the important components of this quality control system — the mechanism of selection of scientific ideas — works sometimes "too symmetrically", cutting off both ends of the frequency function — "too silly" and "too original" ideas. That is the reason why scholars even in rich countries, where science is financed much better than in the Community of Independent States, feel the need to form alternative scientific communities, whose research standards combine the "ban on silliness" with permissiveness as regards innovative ideas. Such is, in particular, the Society for Scientific Exploration established in the USA some twenty years ago.

Certainly, to combine rigorousness with openmindedness is not so simple; it is far easier to throw up one's hands tragically, appealing to crush the "Hydra of pseudoscience". But in Academician A. L. Yanshin's warning about the "bath-water" and the "baby" one can see much more true scholarly erudition and culture than in all these lamentations.

Does all the above-said mean that there exists no pseudoscience at all? Certainly not — although, to my mind, it is not worthy of this name, being thereby promoted to a higher rank than it deserves. One certainly can take out a patent for the discovery of the "informationally-energetic multi-manifestation on Earth and in near space of a non-human intelligence"³—but has it anything to do even with *pseudoscience*?

On the other hand, the social roots of "true pseudoscience" are extending not only into what "pseudoscientists" "wish for, but are not capable

New Times, Old Songs

of", but also into what "true scientists" "are (perhaps) capable of, but do not wish for". Participating in the discussion on pseudoscience, Academician A. S. Spirin appealed to his colleagues "to popularize scientific achievements interestingly and in a simple form — that alone would be the best way to struggle with pseudoscience". This is a sensible idea indeed, but even more sensible would have been another appeal: study everything unknown in the scientific way, and not thrust your heads into the sand. The refusal of science to investigate those real phenomena that are poorly "caught" by the "nets" of scientific theoretical notions and research equipment (such as UFOs and psi-phenomena) is the best possible nutrient medium for pseudoscience. After all, amateur ufology in the USSR started with attempts to draw the attention of established science to this phenomenon. Its negative reaction to these attempts led eventually to the formation of an "alternative community" with, to put it mildly, rather loosened cognitive standards.

The reader may make an objection: a negative reaction, surely? But judging from the paper "History of State-Directed UFO Research in the USSR" by Yuliy Platov and Boris Sokolov published in RB, 1999, Vol. 5, No. 3-4, there had been carried out in the former USSR a gigantic official program of UFO studies?! That's certainly so. I can also add that this paper has just been published in Russian in the *Herald of the Russian Academy of Sciences* (2000, Vol. 70, No. 6, pp. 507-515). This work should not be underestimated at all. Some Russian enthusiasts-ufologists gave it an immediate hostile reaction, taking no trouble to look more closely into its contents. At the same time, substantial criticism has also been expressed — particularly, in some RB readers' letters. In this issue of the Bulletin we are publishing two letters of this kind — written by L. M. Gindilis and P. N. Rybalko. There will appear other ones

in the forthcoming RB issues and we certainly hope to publish in due course a reply from the paper's authors.

In closing — a few words about a paper that opens this issue of the Bulletin — "The Moonshaft", by Antonin T. Horak. Generally speaking, this is just another "story" about an enigmatic find and, also, a reprint (which appear in our periodical only exceptionally). However, the Scientific Council of RIAP has agreed that the paper is important and informative enough to draw our readers' attention to it. Possible existence of such an enigmatic artificial structure not somewhere in Amazonia, but in the Tatra Mountains, not far from the state frontier between Ukraine and Slovakia, does certainly merit notice, and the idea to commence a search for this structure can hardly be regarded as fantastic. If several anomalistic (and perhaps also — why not? — scientific) research bodies united their efforts and resources in this affair, I can suppose a tangible result would not be too long in coming.

Notes and references

¹ See: Established Pseudoscience: A Discussion at the Presidium of the RAS. — *Herald of the Russian Academy of Sciences*, 1999, Vol. 69, No. 10. For short, we will designate it below as Commission on Pseudoscience.

² "The Hydra of counterrevolution" is a popular expression from the epoch of the Civil War in Russia (1918-1920), and "the place must be made too hot for the German invaders" — that from the epoch of the Great Patriotic War (1941-1945).

³ That's not a fantasy. This patent was granted on June 14, 2000, to Dr. V. G. Azhazha, Full Member of the International Academy of Informatization, by the registration body of this very Academy.

Vladimir V. Rubtsov

RIAP BULLETIN

Editor: Vladimir V. Rubtsov, Ph.D.

RIAP Bulletin (RB) is the ONLY serious anomalistic periodical in the Commonwealth of Independent States published IN ENGLISH. It is the official newsletter of the Research Institute on Anomalous Phenomena (RIAP) that has been established in 1992 by the Kharkov-based Aerospace Company "Vertical". The Institute aims at scientific studies in the fields of the UFO problem and non-classical SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence). There appear in RB research articles, reports on results of investigations that are conducted by RIAP specialists, short communications, book reviews, letters to the Editor, etc.

RB Vol. 1, Nos. 1-4 - Vol. 6, Nos. 1-4 have been printed and sent to subscribers. They contain, in particular, the papers "Post-Soviet Ufology: a View from Inside", by V.V.Rubtsov; "The "Russian Roswell": a Legend Under Examination", by Y.N.Morozov, "UFOs as Objects of Study by Terrestrial Physics", by V.A.Buerakov; "Search for Alien Artifacts on the Moon: A Justification", by A.V.Arkipov; "History of State-Directed UFO Research in the USSR", by the Russian academic UFO expert Y.V.Platov and Colonel B.A.Sokolov; "The Petrozavodsk Phenomenon", by L.M.Gindilis & Y.K.Kolpakov; "The Black Ball: a Supposed Extraterrestrial Artifact", by V.N.Fomenko; "A Second UFO Landing on the River Mzha", by a

group of RIAP scientists, and others. We have also published the first really comprehensive survey of anomalous features of the famous Tunguska explosion ("The Tunguska Meteorite: A Dead-Lock or the Start of a New Stage of Inquiry?"), written by the leading Russian specialist in this problem - Nikolay V. Vasilyev, Member of Academy.

There will appear in the next RB issues, in particular, the following papers: "Astroengineers over Tunguska", by V.K.Zhuravlev; "UFOs: False and Genuine", by Y.V.Platov; "UFO Landings on the Mzha River: the Investigations Continue", by V.P.Goloveshko et al., "Examining Possible Paleovisit Traces", by Y.N.Morozov, and many others.

RIAP Bulletin is published four times per year. Subscription rates: a life-long subscription - \$100; 12 issues (three years) - \$50; 8 issues (two years) - \$35; 4 issues (one year) - \$20. Airmail postage included. Back issues are still available in limited quantities (\$5 per copy, \$75 a whole set - sixteen issues).

RIAP Bulletin is also produced as a PDF file - that is immediately sent to subscribers via the Internet. The "electronic RB" is an exact replica of its printed version. It can be easily read with the help of a free browser - Adobe Acrobat Reader.

For details of subscription process please contact RB Editor at our mailing address: RIAP/RB, P.O.Box 4684, 61022 Kharkov-22, Ukraine, or by e-mail: <tolimak@nettaxi.com>.

WHEN UFOs LAND

For the first time, a large circulation general interest magazine in the U.S. has unequivocally stated that UFO's are real. The May 2001 issue of "Popular Mechanics" contains the provocative lead story "When UFOs Land," which talks about the investigations by Peter Sturrock and others of physical evidence from UFO landing sites - evidence that has been suppressed and ignored by the media. Sturrock was on Dreamland last year to talk about his book "The UFO Enigma: A New Review of the Physical Evidence."

In 1997, Laurence Rockefeller, who has long been interested in UFO's and other scientific enigma, asked Peter Sturrock, the former director of the Centre for Space Science and Astrophysics at Stanford university, to convene a meeting of a dozen top scientists to discuss UFO evidence. Researchers from places as Princeton, MIT, Stanford and the Centre for Space Research in France focused their attention on cases where physical traces were left behind.

"While their findings were not conclusive, Rockefeller said, "I hope they will raise the level of debate." "Ask most scientists what they think of the UFO enigma and you will almost certainly get a scoff and a brush-off like, "There's not one shred of evidence", says astronomer Bernard Haisch. "That answer is simply not true. The problem is that this evidence does not follow our expected scientific logic, and so scientists dismiss what is, in fact, a huge number of accounts. Many sighting reports, as absurd as they sometimes appear, are probably real. Most professional scientists never bother to look at the evidence. Instead, the dogmatic dismissals by professional debunkers, which are often patently ridiculous, are simply taken at face value."

Three of the cases are reviewed in the article. In one, a UFO exploded after hitting the water near as town in Brazil in 1957 and left behind metallic debris composed of an extremely high grade of magnetism. It is now suspected that the craft was a classified U.S. Military plane that used magnesium as part of its fuel source. When the material was sent to the Air Force for analysis, it was "accidentally" destroyed. The other 2 cases have no conventional explanation. One, which took place in 1992, concerns a UFO sighting by a Florida policeman that made his cruiser stop dead. "The scientific panel was very impressed by cases in which electrical equipment was disrupted," said Michael D. Swords of Western Michigan University.

In another case, which took place in Trans-En-Provence in France in 1981, a hovering UFO left circular marks behind on the ground. The French UFO organisation GEPAN removed soil from the area and found it had been contaminated with traces of metal, while the surrounding vegetation was damaged.

In 1977, a UFO ejected 40 pounds of molten, red-orange metal onto the ground in Iowa. After the metal cooled, samples were collected by local astronomer Robert Allen, who sent them to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio and to the Ames Laboratory at Iowa State University. Wright-Patterson would not publicize its findings, but stated "re-entering spacecraft debris does not impact the earth's surface in a molten state." Ames Laboratory director Robert S. Hansen said it was not a meteor impact. Former Lockheed scientist Bernard Haisch, who was on the Rockefeller panel, says, "We need to be sceptic of both the believers and the scoffers." He has created a web site:

SUFOG
25 Weston Grove,
Woolston
Southampton
Hampshire
SO19 9EE

When UFOs Land

<http://www.ufoskeptics.org>

to encourage mainstream scientists to reconsider UFO evidence. "UFO sightings are not limited to farmers in backward rural areas," he says. "There are astronomers and pilots and NASA engineers who have witnessed events for which there is no plausible conventional explanation."

<http://popularmechanics.com>

For more information go to the Popular Mechanics web site above and search the site using just the word 'UFO' and take a look at the other articles under 'Archives.'

Scientists Say Meteors Common Mass Sightings Rare

The fiery meteor that streaked across the northeastern United States on Monday 23rd July, stunning eyewitnesses from Canada to Virginia, was likely one of the small stony space objects that routinely enter Earth's atmosphere every few weeks, scientists said on Tuesday.

What made this one rare, however, was that the blazing object appeared over a heavily populated region of North America in clear view of thousands of people who flooded emergency hotlines in a half-dozen U.S. states with reports of meteors, crashing planes and UFOs.

Something similar occurred two years earlier in the United States, when high school football fans spotted a fireball overhead in an October evening sky moments before a meteorite crashed through a car in Peekskill, New York. The object later was sold to a collector for \$69,000.

"We do get interplanetary material raining down on the Earth to the tune of 400 tons a day, mostly dust but also rocky particles," said Don Yeomans, a scientist who oversees the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Near-Earth Object Program.

"This sort of thing's not unusual," he added. "What is unusual is that it happened over a densely inhabited area. Usually it's over an

ocean, or a sparsely populated area, and nobody sees it."

Monday's meteor was sighted over the US mid-Atlantic at about 6:19 pm over a distance of up to 500 miles.

Scientists believe the object was no larger than a small suitcase and probably was incinerated by contact with the Earth's atmosphere long before it could strike ground.

Television stations on Tuesday appealed to viewers for any home videos of the meteor. Scientists said camcorder footage of the 1992 fireball in New York enabled analysts to track the object back to the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter.

Experts say it could be weeks before they can gather hard data on Monday's meteor from US missile-detection satellites and other government sensors, which record 3-foot-wide objects striking the atmosphere at a rate of about two a month.

Based on eyewitness accounts, scientists assume it was a chunk of asteroid that hit Earth's atmosphere at supersonic speed, flared into a fireball at an altitude of about 60 miles and then exploded into dust at 10 miles to 20 miles somewhere above Pennsylvania.

Former Government Employees Say It's Time to Reveal UFO Evidence

Rense.com

10/05/01

ABCNews.com – That's according to a group of about 20 former government workers, many of them military and security officials, who stepped forward on Wednesday to say they had witnessed evidence of aliens and unidentified flying objects and called for congressional hearings about such sightings

"These testimonies establish once and for all that we are not alone," said Steven Greer, director of the Disclosure Project, a non-profit research organisation dedicated to disclosing alleged alien sightings.

Greer, who organized the program at the National Press Club in Washington, argued that the United States and other governments have known about UFOs for at least 50 years and have been keeping the information secret.

Greer said there were some 400 witnesses who claim to have first-hand experience with UFO sightings or alien evidence, and are willing to testify before Congress.

Among them is Daniel Sheehan, a well-known Washington lawyer who is acting as counsel for members of Greer's group.

Sheehan told reporters that during the Carter administration he found out about government-held UFO information that the then CIA Director George Bush, father of the current presidents, would not release.

Sheehan said he was then led into the National Archives, where he was shown photographs of

captured UFOs, complete with what appeared to be alien writing symbols, but he was only allowed to take notes on a yellow legal pad, he said.

International UFO Cabal? James Oberg, an ABCNEWS space consultant and retired NASA engineer, says Greer has long argued "there's this bizarre theory that there is a worldwide real X-file cabal that is using UFO technology." But Oberg noted not every witness attending the conference necessarily subscribed to Greer's theory, and says those attending the press conference shouldn't be mocked

"People see strange things they can't understand, and that can't be explained either then or in hindsight, and it's good to keep documenting these, because often the mysterious sightings are things of interest, to military intelligence or even to science."

Oberg says people sometimes can be too quick to conclude that the explanation is little green men.

"Often, I've seen people jump to conclusions about what they saw, because, after all, to have been scared by a distant fireball can be embarrassing but to have encountered an alien space ship is more exciting."

Military Denies UFOs

The U.S. government repeatedly has denied having any evidence of alien species, though it investigated UFOs for decades.

Earthlings Welcome In Nevada Town

By Jean Allen Special to the Star

Rachel, Nevada – If E.T. really wanted to call home, this is where he'd be looking for a payphone.

This tiny town, population 100 is the nearest settlement to "Area 51," the place that conspiracy theorists claim is connected with extraterrestrial goings-on.

There's a café where alien burgers are big sellers, a bar, motel and UFO information centre/souvenir shop. The bar is called the Little A'le Inn and the sign out front says "Earthlings Welcome," beside a picture of a space alien.

Right in the middle of Nevada, a desolate highway skirts the remote super-secret Nevada Test Site, a military area that's off limits. The secrets led to legends and myths, which is how State Route 375 came to be known as the Extraterrestrial Highway.

In the 1950's, above-ground nuclear tests there sent mushroom clouds billowing into the desert sky. At other times, oddly shaped aircraft with no markings would roar over the deserted highways and disappear over a hill.

The government steadfastly denied the existence of a secret base or Area 51, also known as "Dreamland" near Rachel.

Some people suspected there were aliens hidden there, or other secret goings-on that involved extraterrestrials. Others simply believed that the U.S. Air Force was developing new military aircraft, such as the U-2 and SR-71 spy planes and the F227, a stealth fighter.

There's a lot of information on the Web site www.dreamlandresort.com operated by Joe and

Pat Travis, who own the café-motel-bar-shop complex. Or call (775) 729-2515 or write to HCR Box 45, Rachel, NV 89001, U.S.A. The web site describes the area's large Groom Lake and the surrounding Nellis Mountains, and offers online reservation forms and souvenir purchases. There's news about available guided hikes as well as an online virtual walking tour. A 20-picture aerial "panorama" can be viewed, with captions describing the purpose of various buildings and vehicles (it looks a lot like an industrial park).

Gene Duplantier
17 Shetland St.
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M2M 1X5

The site also includes a map, directing visitors to Dreamland: Take Interstate 15 northeast out of Las Vegas; at Exit 64, turn left (north) on U.S. 93 to State Highway 375 (the Extraterrestrial Highway); follow 375 to Rachel and Area 51.

Aside from the excitement of Rachel, this road is typical of many in sparsely populated Nevada, and the Extraterrestrial Highway is not far from what's been called the Loneliest Road in America, a name bestowed by Life Magazine on U.S. Route 50 in the mid-1980s. Life said there were no attractions or points of interest along the 460-km stretch of road.

Tongue-in-cheek tourism officials developed a "Highway 50 Survival Kit" (a map and brochures) that can be redeemed for a pin and survivor's certificate signed by the governor. "Loneliest Road" signs were posted along Route 50, and publicity brought more tourists, so it's no longer so lonely. Route 50 parallels the trail the Pony Express riders developed a century ago, and was also part of the original coast-to-coast Lincoln Highway.

First Direct Evidence Of Negative Gravity

National Post, Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Supernova Data. By James Glanz.

A photograph of a distant exploding star has given astronomers the first direct evidence that a mysterious "negative gravity" force swept through and still pervades the universe, scientists announced at a NASA press conference on Monday.

The exploding star, the most distant ever observed, was photographed by luck in 1997. But scientists say subsequent detective work involving the relative intensity of its light confirms one of Einstein's conjectures about the universe: that all of space is now bubbling with an invisible form of energy that creates a mutual repulsion between objects normally attracted to each other by gravity.

Einstein thought the force, which he called the cosmological constant, was so strange that he later repudiated it. But the idea gained support in 1998 with findings suggesting that the expansion of the universe is accelerating and that the accelerating force or negative gravity – the manifestation of the cosmological constant – overtook the force of gravity some time in the last few billion years.

The new findings confirm that crucial prediction. And they rule out a number of competing explanations. Because the total amount of this negative gravity

Because the total amount of this negative gravity in any given volume should be minuscule, its effects would go unfelt in everyday life. But over vast distances involving huge volumes of space, the anti-gravity effect would be powerful enough to push whole galaxies and clusters of galaxies apart from one another.

Exploding stars, or supernovas, such as the one that turned up unexpectedly on a photograph made by the Hubble telescope, can be excellent probes of those grand forces. The new observation is of a star that exploded 10 billion years ago, when the universe was a quarter of its present age and when, scientists theorize, the cosmological constant, often called dark energy, was less powerful than ordinary gravity, the opposite of what prevails today.

As a result, the expansion of the universe was slowing at that time. This deceleration means the star was closer to Earth when it exploded than it otherwise would have been – in fact discernible in its unusual brightness. Astronomers said it is twice as bright as it would have been under competing theories about the universe.

A team led by two astrophysicists, Adam Riess of the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore and Peter Nugent of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, analysed the observations. Riess said the measurement "nails the existence of the dark energy."

Michael Turner, an astrophysicist at the University of Chicago who was not involved in the work, called the dark energy "one of the most important discoveries in all of science."

He added the emphasis would not shift to a search for the source of the energy – a problem that so far has completely stumped physicists – and more distant super-novas to pin down the characteristics of the dark energy.

The universe is believed to be expanding as a legacy of the "big bang" roughly 14 billion years

First Direct Evidence Of Negative Gravity

ago. Until several years ago, scientists were almost certain the gravitational attraction among the galaxies would slow the expansion.

One class of supernova explodes with nearly the same brightness each time, like bulbs of a known wattage. Their brightness as seen from Earth measures their absolute distance and the speed at which the expansion is sweeping them away.

An unexpected dimness suggested clouds of cosmic dust – or an anti-gravity effect.

But the relative brightness of the most distant supernovas, on the other side of the universe, agreed with Einstein's theory, rather than with the cosmic dust hypothesis.

Area 51 The Musical?

Cameron Mackintosh, renowned producer of Phantom of the Opera may be putting his weight behind a new musical with extraterrestrial links.

The new project is a sci-fi musical, Area 51, by a young and unknown composer named Daniel Richard O'Brien.

A 21-year-old junior at the University of Glasgow, O'Brien acted in a Dundee Rep production of Macbeth when he was 9, and played drums live with Nico McBrain of Iron Maiden at 11. He began writing Area 51 at the age of 17, with the intention of writing a contemporary musical which was influenced by film, current music and popular culture.

The title of O'Brien's musical refers to the name of a secret military facility about 90 miles north of Las Vegas, where UFO aficionados believe the U.S. government is hiding a captured flying saucer and alien.

The number refers to a 6-by-10-mile block of land, at the center of which is a large air base the U.S. government has been reticent about discussing. The site was selected in the mid-1950s for testing of the U-2 spy plane, due to its remoteness.

In 1989, Bob Lazar claimed on a Las Vegas television station that he had worked with alien

spacecraft at Papoose Lake, south of Area 51. Since then, "Area 51" has become a synonym for the US government's alleged conspiracy to conceal the existence of extraterrestrials.

According to the show's official website, Area 51 is "A Place of Mystery. A Place of Sexual Desire. A Place of Awesome Good. A Place of Terrifying Evil."

The show takes place in "the depths of space," where "a monstrous evil has awoken. An evil so powerful its influence reaches beyond the stars."

The description continues: "One fateful night, in the darkest recesses of the top-secret military installation known only as Area 51, that evil has found a home. In a race against time, Rick Adams, head of Area 51's Scientific Research Unit, must find a way to halt the invasion before all of humanity succumbs to the extraterrestrial onslaught. The foe he faces has existed since time immemorial."

Rick Adams' enemies are called "the Greys." "They can read your mind," the web site adds. "They are impervious to all known weaponry. They can enter your home and violate you without consent. And they're coming for you."

International Sighting Reports

Selected extracts from Filer's Files #33 MUFON Skywatch Investigations George A. Filer, Director, Mutual UFO Network Eastern August 14, 2001, Majorstar@aol.com.

UFOs reported in Pennsylvania, Virginia, Florida, Ohio, Illinois, Wisconsin, Canada, Australia, England, Turkey and Belorussia.

Air Safety -- Several of these reports again reflect on the safety of aircraft around the world. UFOs are being observed by ground and airborne witnesses and confirmed by radar. Near misses and other high speed maneuvers conducted by UFOs in approach corridors to our airports represent a potential safety hazard. UFOs may also cause electromagnetic troubles in aircraft that affect navigation, guidance, and flight control systems. Crews report ducking down in the cockpit and taking evasive action could result in aircraft losses. China and Mexico have reported actual airborne collisions with UFOs. A sudden dive by aircraft possibly avoiding a collision like Egypt Air Flight 900 should be examined in relation to these UFO reports.

Pennsylvania Truck Size Cigar Shaped UFOs

Philadelphia -- Truck size cigar shape object over the Blue Route 476 in the western suburbs. The witness reports, "On August 10, 2001, at 11:47 AM I was driving to work and directly ahead of me, a half of a mile or so, I saw an object that resembled a cigar shape, quickly, zooming over the highway. It flew over the trees and it disappeared. The craft looked as though it was about the size of a truck. It seemed to reflect the sky on the top, and more dark on the bottom half. It was not high at all, as far as my view, a half mile ahead. It looked

like it was maybe a hundred feet over the highway. If I were to hold out my arm and clench my fist, the object would be about half the size of my fist. No one else, as far as I could see, saw the object. But, because I love looking into the sky, I am more alert to the stranger objects than most people. This was not a plane, not a bird, not a helicopter. The object kind of teetered back and forth as it passed, almost out of control. Last year, another UFO flew by within a hundred feet from the ground. Thanks to Peter Davenport at the National Reporting Center www.ufocenter.com

Florida UFOs and Fighters Observed

St. Petersburg -- ISUR reports that. At about 11:30PM on August 10, 2001, the witness, his son and a friend observed a bright white colored light/object hovering in the sky over St. Petersburg. The object moved, then reversed it's direction 180 degrees, turned at sharp angles, and zig-zagged in an incredible manner. At times the object would stop, then move forward in short pulse like bursts of speed, then hover for long periods. After about 15 minutes, several jet fighter type aircraft appeared, believed by the witness to be from nearby McDill AFB which is about 5 miles east across Tampa Bay. Witness stated that these jet aircraft appeared to travel a course to the southeast as if trying to locate something because they repeated this two more times, but at a higher altitude. The light/object remained stationary while the jets flew this pattern. Eventually, it began to "drift" and then smaller lights/objects appeared from all directions, they too drifting, but toward the primary object, then all finally became motionless. These activities continued for over an hour. Thanks to Tom Sheets, ISUR Board-State Director MUFONGA and D.

Continued Page 27

The Disclosure Project has fired its first cannon shot heard around the world by an estimated billion people. The main goal was not designed to reveal any "smoking gun" evidence, at this time but to request immunity for other witnesses and to obtain Congressional hearings. This is a major first step. I encourage all UFO organizations to hold similar press briefings, call radio talk shows, and contact their Congressmen. For information on the testimony and other events to follow, go to: www.disclosureproject.org

Filer's Files #20-2001
 MUFON Skywatch Investigations
 George A. Filer: MUFON Eastern Director,
 May 15, 2001
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DISCLOSURE PROJECT AN INITIAL SUCCESS

Dr. Greer and a dedicated unpaid staff have made a mighty first step towards the validation of UFOs and alien life forms. I consider it an honor to have participated with twenty former government employees who staked their reputations on the UFO concepts they expounded. Each of us had only a few minutes to describe what we knew about UFOs. Many had excellent evidence in their possession including FAA tapes and government documentation. I had an opportunity to talk to most of the witnesses and staff at great length. They are some of the finest and most knowledgeable people I have had the pleasure of meeting. Their information on UFOs far surpasses most other ufologists. Dr. Steven Greer should be congratulated for finding these insiders and organizing the Disclosure Project. The press conference held at the National Press Club on May 9th was excellent. I talked with several reporters afterwards who were very impressed. They had never seen so many cameras and reporters at a press conference, at least not since President Reagan was there over twenty years ago.

Furthermore, the two hundred reporters stayed for hours applauding until the very end. I was told that at most press conferences the reporters leave in a few minutes. I could see a major shift in their mindset as one after another the witnesses testified. I felt many debunkers changed their minds about the reality of UFOs. They indicated it would be tough to get their editors to publish this material but they had a new respect for the subject. Judging by the questions and interest I personally received from the Dateline, Mexican TV, and BCC, the UFO Disclosure is gaining powerful allies. Let us be realistic, it is not easy to change the minds and the inherent paradigm shattering implications of this information. These very skeptical reporters were amazed to see credible proof of ETs and UFOs. We made valiant efforts after the press conference to reach every Senator and Representative in Congress. The congressmen are concerned about their jobs and it will be interesting to see if even one has the patriotism and courage of Gerald Ford who requested hearings as a congressman in 1966.

The Disclosure Project would likely have reached a much greater audience if the FBI had not released information that thousands of critical files in the Timothy McVeigh case had not been disclosed to his lawyers. It seems rather strange that all this "missing" data concerning the Oklahoma City case had suddenly been found and was released at the most critical time when the Disclosure Project was ready to hit the headlines. Most people assume it is a foregone conclusion that McVeigh will still be executed. The only purpose can be to prolong his execution in order to control the content of all the major media. McVeigh claims the bombing was the result of FBI action at Waco. He is not contesting his execution, but the Internet is full of stories indicating Iraqi involvement in the bombing.

The Enigma is a publication of the U.F.O. Study Group of Greater St. Louis and is published monthly. Not affiliated with any National Society, it is an independent, non-profit organisation dedicated to the investigation and reporting of both area and national U.F.O. sightings and peripheral areas of interest. The U.F.O. Study Group of Greater St. Louis Inc., P.O. Box 31544, St. Louis, MO. 63131. Please include a self-addressed envelope for reply.

Filer's Files #21-2001
 MUFON Skywatch Investigations
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 May 22, 2001
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DISCLOSURE PROJECT AND THE WRIGHT BROTHERS

On May 9, 2001, I spoke at the National Press Club to several hundred reporters with twenty former government employees attempting to prove the reality of UFOs. Although the several hundred reporters and television cameraman were enthusiastic, the national news coverage was less than expected. Ranger wrote and reminded me that when the Wright Brothers had their first powered manned flight, they sent out a press release first and the only press person to attend was a woman reporter from a local newspaper. After the flight she returned to the paper and wrote the story. When she turned it in to the editor "She Was Fired" because after all we all know that humans cannot fly. She obviously was lying and of course her story never ran! Two years after their first flight and many longer successful flights the Scientific American Magazine was still claiming it was a hoax, and they weren't really flying! The Wright Brothers had to take their plane to New York City and fly in circles over the city to convince people they could actually fly!! Therefore, human nature hasn't changed much since then. Thanks to ranger116@webtv.net

Editor's Note: We encourage the New York reporters to look up over New York, particularly at sunrise and sunset for the UFOs.

THE EARLY YEARS

A selection of reports from various magazines published in the 1950s and 1960s

* * * * *

Adelaide, South Australia - January 23, 1958

Australian Saucer Record (Australian Flying Saucer Research Society)

Sputnik 2 observers last night twice reported a strange object in the sky. The first reports came minutes before the satellite passed over and the second about 15 minutes later.

Reports stated that the object appeared in the western sky as a bright red ball travelling fast in an easterly direction before swinging to the north and disappearing.

"The object was about the same size as Sirius and as bright but red with a sort of halo. It had no fiery tail like a meteor and did not follow the same trajectory but turned and disappeared with a fuzzy reddish glow", a witness said.

Sputnik appeared a few minutes later coming from the N.N. West and travelled to the south.

New York, New York - September 2, 1960

LUFORO Bulletin (London U.F.O. Research Organisation)

A mysterious space object which has appeared in the sky over New York five times since August 23 has been photographed by a tracking camera at the Grumman aircraft plant at Bethpage, Long Island. Its speed is thought to be about three times that of the satellite Echo 1. A spokesman for Grumman said the object was photographed at 8.50 p.m. last Thursday as it passed over the company's plant in a westerly direction. The announcement followed reports that scientists had detected an object of similar description over Chicago and various East Coast areas last week. Observers said the object seemed to glow with an intermittent reddish light. It travels from east to west rather than in the west to east path followed by man-made satellites.

Huntingburg, Indiana - June 14, 1964

Saucer News (Saucer and Unexplained Celestial Events Research Society)

On a farm two miles northwest of Dale, Indiana a glowing object landed at about 9.00 p.m. and then departed leaving behind the smell of sulphur. The UFO also left behind a burned spot and three holes or indentations in the ground, each approximately a half inch deep. An Air Force investigator came to the scene and interviewed Charles Engelbrecht, the 18-year-old youth who witnessed the landing. The investigator retrieved a small piece of metal from the burned spot. When examined under a jeweller's glass the metal appeared to be grooved on the surface, like a walnut.

The same UFO was seen in daylight several hours earlier by two youths who were on a fishing trip southeast of Yankeetown, Indiana. The object was travelling at treetop level and when it was within 200 yards of the young men it veered away going out of sight at the same level. The UFO made no sound and appeared to be 10 to 15 yards in diameter. It was visible for about ten minutes. An unconfirmed report broadcast by a local radio station stated that the object hit a farmhouse in the vicinity causing a television set to blow up.

Australian Sighting Reports

The following sighting reports are presented as described
directly by the witnesses to VUFORS.

8th March, 1999

Having just seen a report on the channel nine news concerning mysterious orange lights I would like to share my similar experience. On or about the 8th of March 1999 I was woken at about 4:30 am by my newborn daughter, my wife also got out of bed to feed and settle her.

It was a warm but lightly overcast morning and I went out to the front porch of my Hotham street home to smoke a cigarette. The house was situated at the Eastern end of the street about 25 metres from Hoddle Street and I had a clear view across to the Victoria Park football Ground.

Glancing up to the Eastern sky I noticed a trio of peculiar orange lights visible as if through light cloud. They were hanging motionless and after maybe a minute were joined by a fourth object which made a tight, controlled orbit of the original trio and settled into a position to the right of the formation where it seemed to pulsate for about thirty seconds and then slowly faded from view into the clouds.

From later examinations of the area of sky in which they appeared I was able to deduce that they were actually quite low to the ground given that the cloud was at times seen to pass over them. At a guess I would say that their size would have been that of a golf ball held at arms length, their colour was the amber of a traffic light.

The area in which they were hovering seemed to be around the Kew - Studley Park

neighbourhood. After watching for several minutes I called my wife out to see the objects which she acknowledged as being strange.

I watched for several more minutes as one by one the lights faded out and somewhat perplexed, I returned to bed. Since this sighting I have become a keen watcher of the night skies and having moved to a more northerly suburb to have a more or less unobstructed view of the heavens.

If anything I think that this experience has made me more critical of what I see in the skies. I believe that what I saw had no logical explanation and I tend to see it as a sort of "benchmark". The experience had an eerie feel to it as it dawned on me that I was seeing something quite special. I hope that this report may be of use to you.

13th July 2001

A note to let you know of two unusual instances. The most recent was Friday, 13th July 2001 at 7.10 pm.

On this night I had observed what I believed to be a number of satellites (4 plus, this observation) between 6.30 pm and the last observation at 7.10 pm. The satellites in the following order: (1) 6.35 pm from approximately South to North; (2) 6.40 pm from West to East; 6.45 pm a second from South to North at 7.00 from North to South.

At 7.10 I was continuing to search and I noticed another 'star' which I believed was a satellite

Australian Sighting Reports

moving from South to North (more SSE) at about the same velocity as the other satellites I had seen. I observed it for a few seconds when it rapidly waxed in brightness to be brighter than Mars (which was quite clearly visible almost directly overhead) and a very white light; it continued on its trajectory without seeming to vary speed and then it disappeared (it vaguely appeared to deviate slightly East just before it disappeared).

I made the observation from Ashwood, Victoria and estimate that I observed it for about 10 seconds - it was at full brightness for only 2 or 3 seconds. I observed it move from about 40 degrees through to about 50 degrees above the Southern horizon and it seemed to be about 20 degrees East of South.

The night at the time was quite clear. I suppose this could have been satellite debris burning up but it was quite astonishing to see - there was no trail as you might expect with re-entry, though, the 'satellite' just looked like a moving, brilliant 'star'.

2nd October 1999

The other observation was on Saturday, 2nd October, 1999. I was umpiring a cricket match at Chadstone on a windy, overcast day. It was about 5.50 pm and the match was in its last few overs.

Between balls I noticed what I took to be a balloon drifting from South to North on the wind. It seemed to be a largish balloon a few miles off - darker in colour compared to the overcast backdrop. I was looking almost due west and it was about 30 degrees above the Western horizon.

I didn't concentrate on it for long as the game was continuing. However, at the change of over I glanced over and the 'balloon' was still there,

though now it seemed to have become stationary. I thought this was strange as the wind would have been between 15 - 20 knots, if not stronger.

Consequently, I kept it under observation between each ball of the over for another two overs (about 5 minutes) - it did not appear to move though the wind was constant. At stumps it was still stationary and I called the attention of the players to it as we walked off the field.

Unfortunately, I was unable to continue the observation as I needed to attend to some post-match duties. When I returned to the pitch about 5 minutes later to see if it was still there, it had gone.

It was too far away for me to make out any features. As I couldn't keep the object under continuous observation it might yet have been a balloon (why it would be there on such a drab, grey afternoon is anyone's guess) but it's a mystery how it could have maintained a stationary position in that wind.

23rd July 2001

I live in the Boronia area of Melbourne, about 5km from Ferntree Gully, and saw similar strange fast moving lights above and around the Mt Dandenong area on the night of July 23. At their most prevalent I was able to identify 5 lights that seemed to move in unison.

2 lights later disappeared and the remaining 3 almost seemed to be manoeuvring together. Their speed was much faster than any of the planes or helicopters that routinely fly over the mountain.

I have previously been witness to the old garbage bag trick and this seemed nothing of the sort as the speed at which the objects were

Australian Sighting Reports

moving was far greater than wind would be able to carry an object.

At times the lights were moving across 1/4 of the sky in less than 2-3 seconds. I doubt a weather balloon would be able to achieve such a feat and even if so I don't think the sudden direction changes would be attributed to high level jet streams.

24th July 2001

On Tuesday night (24th July) between six and seven o'clock, I noticed an object flashing blue and red in the sky over Noble Park North in the southeastern suburbs. At first I thought it was a plane except it didn't move. I found this quite remarkable and thought it must be some kind of star.

I alerted my fiancé, mother, sister and niece who were indoors. They came outside with me and agreed it was a remarkable sight. Then a few minutes later, a smaller light, yellow in colour seemed to appear either from or below the object and slowly floated upwards in an arc.

We all thought this may have been a plane too but the light didn't flash, it was glowing yellow and a plane flew past, miles below and twice as fast. The slow moving yellow light then continued to arc up and around towards us. It was extremely high and against the stationary stars. I could not tell how close it was.

It continued to move upwards until it disappeared behind a cloud/fog cover over Mulgrave. A few minutes later my sister noticed another one. This one followed the exact same trajectory as the one before, and I mean exact. It too disappeared behind the cloud cover.

Could it have been a plane or two? Shooting stars? I don't know. When driving later on, my fiancé and I noticed two more people pointing

up at the sky. I am wondering if there were any reports of this? I am stumped yet excited to what it could have been.

24th July 2001, Brisbane, QLD

Last Tuesday night while going over the Wivenhoe bridge in Queensland, we noticed a continuous flash of light, flashing in the sky. We thought it was lightning but as we got closer we noticed that it had lights, and all of a sudden a spot of light came off the object.

As we got closer we thought it was a plane, but it was hovering, we got closer and when we were nearly under it, it lit up and it was something in a dome shape. We didn't stop the car but as we were watching from the car it just stayed there hovering. We live near the Amberley Air Force base, so it could have been something of theirs, but all our friends we have told said to report it and that they felt it was a bit weird and so do we.

July 1999

I happened to catch the footage of these lights on the news on the weekend and I believe I saw the same thing around 12 - 18 months ago. I was driving home from the movies with some friends. We were travelling from Sunshine to Werribee (western suburbs of Melbourne). I'm pretty sure it was a weeknight and was probably between 9:00 and 11:30 pm.

I was in the back seat of the car looking out the window when I noticed three bright lights (yellowish colour) in a triangular formation. The lights were in an easterly direction (towards the inner suburbs).

I can't remember if there was cloud cover or not. I was pretty interested by the lights as they were so bright and from my vantage point made an equilateral triangular shape.

Australian Sighting Reports

I pointed them out to my friends and we were all pretty stumped as to what the source might be. I don't recall seeing the lights move at all though I watched them closely for several minutes.

There was no noticeable change in brightness. I turned my vision to the front of the vehicle as it turned from travelling in a westerly direction to a southerly direction. I immediately turned to the left to continue to watch the lights but they were no longer visible.

The bright lights that had remained stationary for some minutes had vanished in a matter of seconds (say 5 - 15 seconds). I couldn't believe my luck. Watching them for so long then taking my eyes off them for a brief time and they had gone.

I'd really like to know more about them. I am fairly interested in astronomy and space sciences. I'm a member of the Astronomical Society of Victoria. I visit the Heavens Above web site and I've seen the ISS, Mir, Space Shuttle, satellites, iridium flares etc.

What I saw was certainly none of the above, nor was it Venus, Jupiter, Saturn or Mars, nor was it a meteor shower or anything like that. I couldn't give an accurate estimate of the magnitude of the lights I saw but I would say they were not as bright as Venus and were brighter than Saturn.

I am certain the source was not an aeroplane and am reasonably confident they were not 3 individual helicopters hovering in formation. However I am confident there were 3 individual light sources. Sorry I can't give an exact date on this sighting.

I've just checked out your "Sightings - 1999" web page and I was pretty surprised/happy to find that someone else has reported my sighting (it seems):

10-7-1999 Sunshine, Victoria - Over Ballarat Road, 12 midnight.

The location, date, time, duration, magnitude seem to match, however I thought the lights were a yellowish colour and I only saw 3 lights - this seems to be consistent with the "9th August, 1999 8.45 pm FERNTREE GULLY - MELBOURNE" sighting.

July 2001

A few weeks ago we noticed an orange light hovering above the Dandenongs. We watched it for around 8 minutes and I managed to video it for a short period of time. We still are not able to determine what it was, we know however it was not a plane or helicopter as there was no noise and it was still for a period of time before it left to the south then disappeared. We live in Ferntree Gully Victoria.

5th August 2001

Last night (the 5th of August) at sunset I saw a black object flying over Melbourne. It was very far away and I couldn't tell what it was. It seemed to be round - wingless, and very far away, moving at a slow pace.

It flew/floated/drifted along and I watched until I lost sight of it behind a tree. While I was watching it a passenger plane flew overhead - it was on a gradient to Melbourne airport - but the black object certainly seemed much higher up in the air.

A Strange UFO Sighting From Turkey

By Sefer Murat Aksoy, B.A. & M.S.

Independent UFO Researcher of Turkey

On the night of 8th July, 2000, Oz Seydali, 22, who works in Canada as an actor for films and TV, together with some other members of his family encountered an amazing UFO in the Northwestern region of Turkey while driving in Vakıfki near the Marmara Sea. The family was on vacation when they saw this UFO hovering over a farmland about five kilometres away from their car.

It all began when they were returning from dinner. It was dark when they got out of the small town. Only the headlights of the car illuminated the road Suddenly Oz Seydali saw a light to the far right, however, at first he thought that it was a farmer harvesting his crop. He therefore ignored it. On the other hand, as they continued, the light seemed to get bigger and brighter and it was now over head, being sphere-shaped just like the Moon. Again he did not pay much attention to the object as it must have been what he had once thought. Despite this fact, Seydali was watching it with one eye, while the other was concentrated on the road. Then he began to consider himself, that perhaps this strange light should have been the Moon! But, he had completely forgotten that the Moon was a half-Moon that night.

Interestingly, the UFO was shining a perfect glow of white, as brilliant white. It suddenly elevated a little higher. Within seconds, it enveloped itself, and one could still see it there like a silhouette. Then the brilliant blue ring surrounded what appeared to be the hull of the object. It blasted a bright blue flash downward from its lower portion before it disappeared. For about 5 seconds, the people in the car could see no stars. The flash was very bright. His sister

in law screamed, thinking that the Moon had exploded. So, Oz Seydali looked around and saw the half Moon behind them. When he pointed it out to everyone, they became calmer. No one really knew what happened, or what the UFO was. Five persons out of seven who were inside the car had witnessed this fascinating event. The other two were asleep.

Approximately ten minutes after the incident, a residue of some kind completely covered their car, and Seydali was forced to bring the vehicle to a completely emergency stop. The windows were rolled down, but there was no smell, except for a strange residue that evaporated without a trace in a few seconds as if it were never there. That part of the sighting seems to be very amazing, since it reminds us about the Angel Hair phenomenon which is a white, fibrous, gossamer or cotton-like substance falling from the sky usually after a UFO is observed. Nevertheless, this filament-like matter disintegrates rapidly and has hardly been available for a full-scale scientific study.

Consequently, OZ Seydali and other UFO witnesses could not get any of this amazing stuff for further analysis, as evidence to their UFO sighting. Apparently, one would need an airtight container of some kind in order to successfully be able to contain whatever it was. No one in the car suffered any illness due to exposure to the residue.

Oz Seydali said that there were additional things to be noticed, for instance, there was some kind of moisture on the nearly dry blades of weeds and grasses. That was very strange, since everything was so dry and brittle in the area as

A Strange UFO Sighting From Turkey

the region was experiencing an extreme drought. It appeared that the UFO had left some moisture and dirt on the dry grass as a result of its passing.

After the event, the family had returned to their vacation village named as Tatil Koy (it means "Holiday Village" in English). Strangely, the villagers also seemed to have been confused and disoriented. Upon asking what had happened, Oz Seydali learned that a woman had seen that bright illumination, and then witnessed a kind of massive explosion. And another man from Tatil Koy again claimed that he had seen the bright flash too.

Moreover, several other people from the same village saw the same UFO. It appeared that all were terrified from what they had encountered. Some thought that this fascinating thing was an "Unidentified Flying Object" while some others insisted that it was a sign from God to pray. To say the least word, it was a very exhilarating experience for everyone.

Author's note: Oz Seydali and his family members have always been known as very honest people. And despite the fact that there could be several possible explanations about the case, the true nature of that strange UFO however remained an open one up to date.

Gippsland Sightings

We now have a Video of three Objects, one a large circular UFO and three smaller objects which disappeared with the larger circular object. This will be shown at the forth-coming September 3rd meeting. A special meeting has been arranged in the Moe Library, 6th September, 3 pm to 6 pm, to sort out what is going on in Gippsland skies. The meeting will

be chaired by Wendy Wolfe, our VUFORS Gippsland representative.

Sighting report forms have been posted to witnesses from Pakenham to Bairnsdale. Some have been returned. All members in the Area are urged to attend, especially those who have witnessed the unusual events.

Internet Survey on the Frederick Valentich Encounter

Beginning in July, a survey form was placed on the VUFORS web site www.ozemail.com.au/~vufors. In approximately 1 month, 40 people have given their answer to this question:

What do you think happened to Frederick Valentich?

He was abducted by aliens	15 votes 38%
He became disoriented and crashed	13 votes 33%
I'm not sure	7 votes 18%
He was the victim of military weapons testing	3 votes 8%
He hoaxed the whole incident and is now living under an assumed name	2 votes 5%

The survey will continue on the VUFORS web site for the next few months. Cast your vote now!

PUBLIC MEETINGS

As of August 31, public meetings will be held at :

YWCA, 147 Wharf Street, Brisbane, Qld.
on the last Friday of every month, commencing at 7.30pm sharp!
Admission prices are \$4.00 for members and \$7.00 for non-members. Supper is included in the admission price.

Gumdale, 21/06/01

I was driving home along Stanborough Road Gumdale, Brisbane at about 5.45pm and saw a ball-shaped object go across the sky from the west to the north east. It was reasonably low in the sky and it did have a tail of flame I think. I only saw it for a couple of seconds, but it was close enough to make me think it would have hit somewhere in Moreton Bay.

Brisbane Airport, 20/06/01

Local Time: 1800. Working at the airport. Saw an object around the size of my thumb. Brilliant white with blue-orange cinder type objects flying off. Started seeing the object at around 40-50 degrees elevation reference the horizon. Continued to burn until a small orange object remained around the size of a 'screw head'. This ball continued until around 3-5 degrees from horizon. Sound was heard similar to aircraft wake turbulence and distant rumble. Thinking back this could have been aircraft in the vicinity of airport, not sure. But quite big, brilliant light and did not completely burn up in atmosphere. Total time of event around 10 seconds. Sound occurred around 5 seconds after losing the object. Several aircraft in the area did report to air traffic control about the item.

Noosa Heads, 17/5 1815pm

Description: The Whitman's airship had just just passed overhead (which is operating from Maroochydhore Aerodrome) and I

observed its passage until out of sight. I looked up shortly after this and observed three distinct lights in an almost straight line, perhaps forming a very shallow triangle. They were aligned in a direction parallel to the coast. They attracted my attention because they appeared much closer than stars, however the light was not fully white but rather of a dull yellow-like appearance. I continued to observe the formation and they appeared to move southerly, generally maintaining their separation but inverting to form a very shallow triangle which was virtually still a straight line. This continued for perhaps up to ten minutes until they were out of view. By 18.25 they were certainly out of view. Other remarks that I can add are that there was definitely no noise indicating any conventional propulsion, the movement was too fast to be a star or satellite. I am a private pilot and am accustomed to observing conventional aircraft, but this was certainly not conventional. No other lights such as the usual beacon or anti-collision strobes of aircraft appeared with the formation. The skies in our location at the time were clear and (to my re-collection) there was no moon observable. Other people may also have observed this and I pointed it out to one of the waitress staff of the restaurant.

Bundamba Wed 4.4.01 1.20am

A woman was letting her dog out and saw a squashed (elliptical?) orange ball in a break in clouds to the WNW. It moved away and seemed to get bigger as it did so. The moon was not visible in the sky and this object looked bigger than the moon and was a deep bright orange. When the object was gone, the clouds were also gone and the stars were out. A relative to the woman living about 15 km to the W was up that night trying to contact Europe and Africa on his ham radio. Conditions were expected to be poor because of solar activity. He operates at 11 metres and has a steerable directional antenna. At 1.08 am he picked up very strong static at a bearing of 285-290 degrees, the general direction of the woman's observation.

Prion Mountain Thu 5.4.01 6.00pm

Two witnesses living on a ridge with a good view observed a bright light to the NW at about 12 degrees elevation. Through binoculars there seemed to be three lights on an object with no navigation lights. It seemed to be stationary for about 10 minutes and then quickly moved into the distance. The sun had set and it was just on dark. The sky was clear in the viewing direction.

Holland Park Sat 7.4.01 9.50pm

A man was driving S on the SE freeway near the Marshall Rd exit and saw a bright white light like a flare crossing his view from R to L. It seemed low (500 feet) and was seen for 15 seconds. A second orange light separated from the first and moved off at right angles to the S or SE and was seen for about 30 seconds. The first object was round at the front with a ragged rear; the second was round and much smaller. There was some low cloud in the sky, and the objects were below the clouds.

Redbank Mon 9.4.01 7.35 pm

A twelve year old boy and his mother observed two white dots low in the sky towards Brisbane city (NE), hovering and moving about. The lights were also observed with binoculars and seemed to be spinning and flashing. One of the lights came quickly to join the first while it was being observed. The family dog also reacted to the incident.

Morayfield, 05/01

At about 2:00pm one day in early May I saw a blue oval shaped object that was rippling like water. It was at the top of the mountains southwest of Morayfield. I thought it was a mirage or a reflection of water of some kind. It was there for about ten seconds, then shot off to the right, stayed there for a while and moved back to its original position. It then moved straight up very fast but not very high. Then it dropped rapidly behind the mountain. All this took place in no longer than 20 seconds.

Compiled by Martin Gottschall

UFO CONFERENCE

**"UFO's - What The Public
Should Know"**

13th & 14th October, 2001

Hosted by UFO Research Queensland

2 days \$110 1 day \$70

(lunch & tea breaks included)

Venue: Melbourne Hotel, Boundary Street
West End, Brisbane

Enquiries: Sheryl or Martin Gottschall

(07) 3376 1780 gottscha@in.com.au

Topics: Mike Farrell "Forbidden UFO Footage -
What the Public Should See!"

Gary Opit "Understanding Extraterrestrials, A
Biologists Perspective"

Sheryl Gottschall "Hypnosis As a Tool for UFO
Research"

International Sighting Reports

Ohio Smooth, Rounded, Silent, Flying Triangle

Blanchester -- On July 31, 2001, at 11:50 PM, the witness relates, "I was driving southeast on Route 123, when I saw a Flying Triangular shaped object. The tips of it were very smooth and round. There was a white light in each corner and a bright red light in the middle. It hovered there for about 30 seconds. As I came closer it shot over to the north and came to a complete dead stop. It didn't start slow or slow down to stop. It stopped as fast as it went. It just sat there in the sky perfectly still. It stayed there for about 1 1/2 minutes. I then turned onto my street and could not see it for a minute because of trees. Then I saw it hovering over a house. It took me two minutes to reach my driveway. I couldn't see it anymore until it shot across the sky tremendously fast. Faster than any aircraft and be completely silent. It shot over my house, flew two houses north of mine, and hovered in my neighbor's field. It wasn't very far from their house. It just sat there hovering with no movement or sound, like it was watching me. I sat in my car for two minutes and watched. I was stunned but ran into my house to get my video camera, but I had forgotten to recharge the battery. I was in my house for about a minute and ran back outside and it was still there. We looked at each other for about 50-60 seconds and it was gone. It was so smooth and graceful and never changed altitude or shape. It was larger than a full moon. Peter Davenport felt she was an excellent and credible witness.

Illinois UFOs Endanger Air Traffic

Downers Grove -- A glowing, gold/orange cylinder-shaped object was observed on August 1, 2001, flying northeast toward Chicago at 8:15 PM. The area of observation is near O'Hare and Midway airports, and several jet aircraft were in

the area flying in normal traffic patterns. We noticed the object was flying nearly at the same altitude of the jet aircraft, but much faster. The object all at once slowed down as a B-757 aircraft departed Midway airport, westbound and flew past our position. We were amazed at this behavior, as if the object was observing the jet. The object then accelerated to the northeast and disappeared in a wink as a B-727 came into view from the east. The 727 entered the O'Hare inbound traffic pattern, flying downrange and turning 180 degrees to begin a final approach. We stood in disbelief to what we just witnessed. It seemed that object was right on top of the 727 and then just vanished. Based upon my 25 years in the airline industry, knowing aircraft performance, physical characteristics, and traffic patterns flown by commercial aircraft in this area, I have never seen such a strange object or vehicle in this area. I am quite certain the object was not a military or commercial aircraft. Based upon the following observations: 1) Aircraft operating in the area were distinguished by familiar physical characteristics, dark in appearance with wings, landing lights and anti-collision lights easily seen and flying in a pattern. 2) The object was a glowing, gold/orange cylinder with NO wings and NO tail section; it changed speeds, and immediately vanished. I have witnessed UFO's hovering near the ground, and flying at altitude in the western US I have never seen an object or UFO enter controlled airspace until this incident, and frankly, the episode was chilling. I am very concerned about the possibility of these vehicles colliding with commercial aircraft. Peter Davenport spoke at length with this witness, and we found him to be quite credible with considerable experience in the aviation/airline industry.

Evanston -- On August 7, 2001, I looked up at 10:20 PM and saw a streak of light and then it slowed down. I couldn't tell the exact distance

International Sighting Reports

but I would estimate 200 to 300 yards away. It was traveling very slowly like it was looking for something. I noticed that there were lights all around the side of the ship. It was kind of like a Flying Triangle with a broad side in the front going to a point in the back. The two front tips seemed to have two brighter lights than the rest. It moved real slow for about 15-20 seconds, and then streaked off to the north. All lights on the Triangle were bright hazy white.

Wisconsin 500 Report UFOs

Wausau -- MUFON John Schuessler reports that some 300 people called WIFC-FM (95.5) local radio personality Tony Brueske claiming they had witnessed a mysterious green or blue light floating over Wausau. WIFC Program Director Danny Wright has provided MUFON with a CD of calls indicating nearly 500 calls. They all saw a green or blue light moving north really low in the sky."

"Hi, this is Tina in Antigo," one caller said. "I saw it, too at 11:20 PM moving north. When I first saw it, it was almost white, then it was bluish-green." No one can explain why 500 people from Stevens Point to Minocqua, phoned a radio station to report the light. "I'd say it was probably the International Space Station (ISS)," said Arnie Nelson, former director of the planetarium at Wausau West High School. "I didn't see it, but that's about the timing it would be, and the brightness." The ISS orbits 250 miles above the Earth, and its brightness varies with its path and weather conditions. According to www.heavens-above.com, the ISS passed over Wausau moving northeast at about 10:30 PM. Thanks to State Director Chad Lewis and Nicholas D. Roesler Assistant State Director and "WAUSAU Daily Herald" (8/3/01 By Peter J. Wasson).

Canada Hovering Disk Shaped Object and Many Other UFOs

Kelowna, BC -- The witness states, "At 11:30 PM, I observed a disk shaped object hovering silently 500 feet above Dillworth Mountain on August 7, 2001. The disk had a large red and white ball of light in the center. The color of the disk appeared black against the night sky and produced no sound. The object turned down the illumination of the center red and white ball of light like a dimmer switch.

Victoria, BC -- Peter Davenport phoned me to report on the August 12, 2001, sighting of a group of UFOs flying in formation above the city. While going outside for a smoke at 12:15 AM, I noticed five people at the wedding reception pointing at the sky. Just as we finished discussing the shooting star, which I had just witnessed, one of the people in the group yelled, "What is that?" and pointed above us looking east in the night sky. It was a group of about 6-7 oval shaped objects traveling in a straight-line formation. They didn't seem to be lit up by their own luminescence but since they were traveling over Victoria near the city center it looked as though the city lights lighted them up. The objects appeared to be a grayish in color. To my shock there was about 6 or 7 stars in a hexagonal pattern, but the stars were moving like they were doing a show. They were in a semicircle and the circle sort of broke a bit. Then one by one they started to move farther away and sped off at a high rate of speed. The wedding videographer was able to tape some of the event as we pointed to the UFOs. The objects continued a slow climb in the square shape formation. They got smaller and disappeared. Thanks to Peter Davenport

International Sighting Reports

Australia Orange Balls of Light

Rockingham -- On July 28, 2001, Brian Richard's phone rang off the hook for two hours as scores of witnesses reported seeing five bright orange lights travel slowly over Waikiki and Warnboro, south of Perth at 8:00 PM. They headed south with one in front. Three were in a straight horizontal line. The lights seemed to pulse in unison and faded out beyond Warnboro. They were observed for some 15 minutes. At 8:30 PM a single orange light appeared from the north and performed a series of aerial maneuvers, zigzagging about and moving up and down, side to side before fading out. At 9:10 PM two more appeared traveling southeast. One of the callers related his dog was barking excessively and running around. This doesn't sound like pranksters setting off hot air balloons made from orange garbage bags and paraffin-wax firelighters suspended underneath. Not one witness out of the twenty I spoke to believed these were hot air balloons. Thanks to Brian Richards's brianr@cleo.murdoch.edu.au.

England Glowing Object

Tyneside -- UFOzone witness report: I was out walking my dog on August 11, 2001, around twenty to Twelve at night when I saw something strange suddenly appear to the right of where I was walking. I was on Station Road walking with Ralf, my Dog. The object was strangely glowing. I stood and watched for a few minutes wondering what it was when I saw a larger object, which had the same kind of glow to it, come out of no where and seemingly disappear when it came into contact with the smaller object. Its not surprising so many people witnessed the event. The object from what I could make out hovered for some time, and looked kind of round, but it seemed to change

shape every so often, and move at high speeds up and around the sky. UPDATE -- Two witnesses reported that the UFO returned, on August 11, and could be seen over the sea near Tyneside. Witnesses watched the light for an hour and fifteen minutes and again moving in a triangular range of motion covering "four fists" measured as the reporter held his arm aloft. Thanks to Dan editor@ufozone.co.uk

Turkey Pilots Chase UFO

Aegean Sea -- Two Turkish pilots from the 122nd Squadron while on a routine training flight in a U.S.-made T-37 off the coastal town of Candarli notified their home base control tower that a bright object had approached their plane at high speed and reportedly gyrated around them for about a half hour on August 6, 2001. The Turkish newspaper "Hurriyet" quoted their call: "Object approaching the wings. Now it's behind the plane, now it's in front of us." They told their controller and the regional war alert center of the Turkish army that the apparent Unidentified Flying Object had an unusual shape. 1/Lt. Dincer, the pilot radioed, "We are facing an unusual situation. We see an object shaped like a cross between a cone and a disc, with support legs, extremely luminous and high speed". Later, the Turkish Air Force announced that the UFO was a weather balloon. The quakes in the Caspian Sea several months back, were also accompanied by UFO sightings. Thanks to Cinde Costello SSD, MUFON-http://abcnews.go.com/sections/world/DailyNews/turkey010808_ufo.html

Editor's Note: It was not explained how the pilots could chase a balloon with support legs for a half hour without being able to identify it correctly.

International Sighting Reports

Belorussian Flying Triangle UFO

Minsk (Belarus') -- On July 19, 2001, at 11:20 PM, Michael Goldencov, a journalist, and his girlfriend Olga Korotkina, a student of Minsk State University noticed a triangle object high in the night sky of Minsk, Belorussian capital. The guys walked opposite the Lithuanian Embassy when Michael saw strange sparkling lights that he first considered to be an aircraft's signal lights. The object flew making square turns. The shape of it was triangle with like a police car sparkling big lights in each corner. Michael and Olga watched the sparkling lights for two minutes. Michael Goldencov said, "I think that it was scanning the city and filming it. I am sure that somebody else had to see it because the object was pretty slow and stayed above the city. No doubt the police and militaries saw this object." Thanks to Vadim Deruzhinsky, Editor-in-Chief of the Secret Researches Analytic Journal vd@gtp.by

Singapore UFO Sighting

On Sunday night July 29, 2001, at about 11:45 PM, my two daughters and I witnessed a UFO hovering over the air base in the north of Singapore. The moon was shining very brightly and the UFO appeared as an egg or like that of a hamburger bun. The UFO was silver in color and 25 feet high and about 70 feet wide. It had 4 huge portholes on its side. The UFO had five lights spread over the side of the space ship and the lights were situated between the 4 portholes. The first, third and fifth lights were small round white lights while the second and fourth were orange lights. AT the back of UFO was a big red flashing red light. On the top of the UFO, somewhere mid-ship is a semi-flat white light that did not flash. The UFO was hovering about 120 to 160 feet above the ground over the air base helicopter squadron. The speed of the hovering craft is estimated at or between 2 to 10 miles per hour. I have 12 years of naval service and have not seen an air plane capable of doing such acts. Thanks to LOOKIN4ET.

Change of Address for MUFON of Ohio and the Ohio UFO Notebook

Mutual UFO Network of Ohio
Box 139
829 Bethel Road
Columbus, Ohio 43214

MUFON of Ohio Web Site: <http://my.ohio.voyager.net/~moraman/mufono/>

Are You Financial

Please Check your Address Label

Society News

The VUFORS Sightings Hotline is NOW AVAILABLE.

 (03) 9506 7080 

Please report your sightings to this number.

Note: This is NOT a 0055 or 1900 service. Your call is charged standard rates.

* * * * ITEMS FOR SALE * * * *

AT THE SEPTEMBER 3rd DISCUSSION EVENING

- * "UFOs...THE REAL STORY" - Stanton Friedman's comprehensive CD-ROM. Was excellent value at \$ 35.00. NOW REDUCED TO \$ 20.00 !!! There's only a few left so don't miss out !
- * "UFOs ARE REAL" Vol. 1 - Stanton Friedman's excellent video summarising the UFO phenomenon. Incredible value at \$ 15.00.
- * "UFOs ARE REAL" Vol. 2 - The second video in which Friedman covers other aspects of the UFO mystery. Also sells for \$ 15.00.
- * "UFOs ARE REAL" CAPS - A bargain at \$ 8.00.
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- * VUFORS LAPEL BADGES - only \$ 5.00 each.
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We will have an extensive range of second-hand books and magazines on sale at marked prices. This is the best selection we have had for several years.

Also on sale will be several back issues of *The Australian UFO Bulletin* at \$ 4.00 per copy.



MEMBER

International Committee for U.F.O. Research

P.O. Box 1043, Moorabbin, Vic. 3189, Australia

DISCUSSION NIGHT

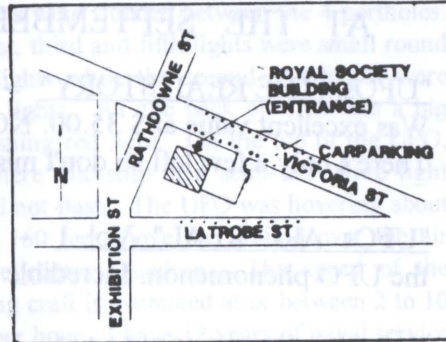
For Your Diary

MARCH	5 th , 2001	DISCUSSION
JUNE	4 th , 2001	"
SEPTEMBER	3 rd , 2001	A.G.M
DECEMBER	3 rd , 2001	DISCUSSION

TIME 8.00 p.m.

WHERE The Royal Society of Victoria
Victoria Street, Melbourne
(SEE MAP)

ENTRY FEE	NON-MEMBER	\$5.00
	ASSOCIATE MEMBER	\$2.00
	FULL MEMBER	FREE ENTRY



SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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FULL MEMBERSHIP:	\$20	- Magazine
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NON MEMBER:	\$5	- Meeting Entry Only

SOCIETY HISTORY

1957

At this point perhaps it may be opportune to present a brief history of the Victorian U.F.O. Research Society.

The earliest U.F.O. group to form in Australia was the "Australian Flying Saucer Bureau" under the direction of Edgar Jarrold and Andrew Tomas, in the early 1950s. At the same time, Fred Stone inaugurated the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" in Adelaide. After approximately two years the Bureau closed down and was regarded as a branch of the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" under Andrew Tomas. This shortly broke from Adelaide and became the "Australian U.F.O. Investigation Centre" with Dr. Clifford at its head until 1958, when the Presidency passed to Dr. Lindtner.

The "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society (Victorian Branch)" was formed on the 17th February, 1957 as a branch of the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" and later that year was re-organised as the "Victorian Flying Saucer Research Society" with Mr. Peter E. Norris L.L.B. as President. In 1968 the name was again altered – this time to the "Victorian U.F.O. Research Society".

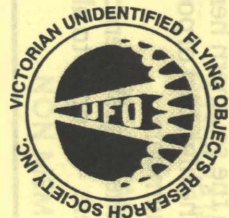
During this time, the Society has published various papers and is probably best known for its publication Australian Flying Saucer Review, curtailed in 1972 due to high costs and subsequently superseded by the Australian U.F.O. Bulletin and at one stage sponsored and produced a quarter-hour program on a Melbourne radio station under the heading of "The Truth Behind Flying Saucers".

In 1978, following the resignation of Mr. Peter Norris the current executive, Mrs. Judith Magee, Messrs. Paul Norman and Clive Yates, was placed in control, ensuring the continuing prosperity of V.U.F.O.R.S. The Society has held a dispassionate attitude on U.F.O.s, claiming it is a scientific problem deserving closer attention. It has also met regularly in general meetings and discussion nights and maintained the largest U.F.O. library in the southern hemisphere. Unfortunately, the loss of books, probably due to the high cost of postage has forced V.U.F.O.R.S. to discontinue this service to members.

Membership of this Society – which maintains the largest membership of any U.F.O. organisation in the Southern Hemisphere – is open to all who are genuinely interested in the subject.

THE AUSTRALIAN U.F.O. BULLETIN

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